

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A data management system for managing data by appending ~~meta-data~~ a keyword for a data search to managed data, said system comprising:

means for accepting a user's selection of the managed data to which the ~~meta-data~~ keyword is to be appended;

means for accepting a user's selection of a type of content of the managed data;

means for displaying on a screen of a display device a group of ~~candidates of meta-data~~ candidate keywords, each group of ~~candidates~~ candidate keywords being prepared in advance in correspondence with each type of content of the managed data;

means for changing a display of a group of ~~candidates of meta-data~~ candidate keywords to be provided in response to a change of the selected type of content of the managed data;

means for accepting a user's selection of ~~meta-data~~ a keyword to be appended to the selected data from the provided group of ~~candidates of the meta-data~~ candidate keywords; and

means for saving the selected data and the selected ~~meta-data~~ keyword in association with each other.

2. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, further comprising:

means for accepting an input of a search condition used to search for the managed data; and

means for searching for the managed data associated with the search condition on the basis of the input search condition and the ~~meta-data~~ keyword.

3. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein said means for accepting the user's selection of the managed data includes means for accepting a selection of at least a portion of the managed data to identify sub-data, and said saving means includes means for saving the sub-data and the ~~meta-data~~ keyword in association with each other.

4. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 3, wherein the managed data is moving image data, and the sub-data is frame image data which forms the moving image data.

5. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 1, wherein the types of content of the managed data are defined for respective events in everyday life.

6. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 5, wherein said means for accepting the user's selection of a type of content of the managed data includes means for accepting a selection of the event, and said means for changing a display of a group of ~~candidates of meta-data~~ candidate keywords includes means for changing the

group of the ~~candidates of meta data~~ candidate keywords to be provided according to the selected event.

7. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein the managed data is data of an image, and

said system further comprises means for displaying the image associated with the selected managed data and the ~~candidates of meta data~~ candidate keywords together.

8. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 1, wherein the managed data is at least one of image data and audio data, and a combination thereof.

9. (Currently Amended) A data management method for managing data by appending ~~meta data~~ a keyword for a data search to managed data, said method comprising the steps of:

accepting a user's selection of the managed data to which the ~~meta data~~ keyword is to be appended;

accepting a user's selection of a type of content of the managed data;

displaying on a screen of a display device a group of ~~candidates of meta data~~ candidate keywords, each group of ~~candidates~~ candidate keywords being prepared in advance in correspondence with each type of content of the managed data;

changing a display of ~~candidates of meta data~~ candidate keywords to be provided in response to a change of the selected type of content of the managed data;

accepting a user's selection of ~~meta-data~~ a keyword to be appended to the selected data from the provided ~~groups of candidates of the meta-data~~ group of candidate keywords; and

saving the selected data and the selected ~~meta-data~~ keyword in association with each other.

10. (Currently Amended) A ~~program~~; computer-executable program stored on a computer-readable medium, for executing a data management method for managing data by appending ~~meta-data~~ a keyword for a data search to managed data, ~~for making a computer function~~, said program comprising:

code for accepting a user's selection of the managed data to which the ~~meta-data~~ keyword is to be appended;

code for accepting a user's selection of a type of content of the managed data;

code for displaying on a screen of a display device a group of ~~candidates of meta-data~~ candidate keywords, each group of ~~candidates~~ candidate keywords being prepared in advance in correspondence with each type of content of the managed data;

code for changing a display of a group of ~~candidates of meta-data~~ candidate keywords to be provided in response to a change of the selected type of content of the managed data;

code for accepting a user's selection of ~~meta-data~~ a keyword to be appended to the selected data from the provided group of ~~candidates of the meta-data~~ candidate keywords; and

code for saving the selected data and the selected ~~meta-data~~ keyword in association with each other.

11. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 2, further comprising means for partially providing contents of the managed data found by the search performed by said searching means.

12. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 11, further comprising:

means for accepting a user's selection of data that provides contents thereof from the managed data found by the search;

means for acquiring other data associated with the selected data; and

means for providing contents of the selected data and the other acquired data.

13. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 12, wherein the managed data is data of a moving image, and

wherein said providing means provides contents of the selected data and the other acquired data by displaying a series of moving images consisting of a moving image of the selected data and a moving image of the other acquired data.

14. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 11, wherein the managed data is at least one of image data and audio data, and a combination thereof.

15. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 9, further comprising the steps of:

- accepting an input of a search condition used to search for the managed data;
- searching for the managed data associated with the search condition on the basis of the input search condition and the ~~meta-data~~ keyword; and
- partially providing contents of the managed data found by the search performed in said searching step.

16. (Currently Amended) A program according to claim 10, further comprising:

- code for accepting an input of a search condition used to search for the managed data;
- code for searching for the managed data associated with the search condition on the basis of the input search condition and the ~~meta-data~~ keyword; and
- code for partially providing contents of the managed data found by the search performed by said ~~search~~ code for searching.

17. (Currently Amended) A data management system for managing data by appending ~~meta-data~~ a keyword for a data search to data to be managed, said system comprising:

means for accepting a user's selection of the types of contents of the data to be managed;

means for providing a screen of a display device with a group of ~~candidates of meta-data~~ candidate keywords, each group of ~~candidates~~ candidate keywords being prepared in advance in correspondence with each type of content of the data to be managed;

means for changing a display of a group of ~~candidates of meta-data~~ candidate keywords to be provided in response to a change of the selected type of content of the data to be managed;

means for accepting a user's selection of ~~meta-data~~ a keyword from the provided group of ~~candidates of the meta-data~~ candidate keywords;

means for inputting the data to be managed to which the selected ~~meta-data~~ keyword is appended after the user's selection of ~~meta-data~~ the keyword; and

means for saving the selected ~~meta-data~~ keyword and the input data as managed data in association with each other.

18. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 17, further comprising:

means for accepting input of a search condition used to search for the managed data;

means for searching for the managed data associated with the search condition on the basis of the input search condition and the ~~meta-data~~ keyword; and

means for partially providing contents of the managed data found by the search performed by said ~~searching~~ means for searching.

19. (Currently Amended) A data management method for managing data by appending ~~meta-data~~ a keyword for a data search to data to be managed, said method comprising the steps of:

- accepting a user's selection of the types of contents of the data to be managed;
- displaying on a screen of a display device a group of ~~candidates of meta-data~~ candidate keywords, each group of ~~candidates~~ candidate keywords being prepared in advance in correspondence with each type of content of the data to be managed;
- changing a display of ~~candidates of meta-data~~ candidate keywords to be provided in response to a change of the selected type of the content of the data to be managed;
- accepting a user's selection of ~~meta-data~~ a keyword from the provided group of ~~candidates of the meta-data~~ candidate keywords;
- inputting the data to be managed to which the selected ~~meta-data~~ keyword is appended after the user's selection of ~~meta-data~~ the keyword; and
- saving the selected ~~meta-data~~ keyword and the input data as managed data in association with each other.

20. (Currently Amended) A ~~program~~, computer-executable program stored on a computer-readable medium, for executing a data management method for managing data by appending ~~meta-data~~ a keyword for a data search ~~to data~~ to [[be]] managed data, ~~for making a computer function~~, said program comprising:

code for accepting a user's selection of the types of contents of the data to be managed;

code for displaying on a screen of a display device a group of ~~candidates of meta-data~~ candidate keywords, each group of ~~candidates~~ candidate keywords being prepared in advance in correspondence with each type of content of the data to be managed;

code for changing a display of a group of ~~candidates of meta-data~~ candidate keywords to be provided in response to a change of the selected type of content of the data to be managed;

code for accepting a user's selection of ~~meta-data~~ a keyword from the provided group of ~~candidates of the meta-data~~ candidate keywords;

code for inputting the data to be managed to which the selected ~~meta-data~~ keyword is appended after the user's selection of ~~meta-data~~ the keyword; and

code for saving the selected ~~meta-data~~ keyword and the input data as managed data in association with each other.

21. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 17, wherein said means for accepting the user's selection of ~~meta-data~~ a keyword includes means for accepting a plurality of ~~meta-data~~ keywords, and said means for saving the selected ~~meta-data~~ keyword and the input data includes means for saving the ~~meta-data~~ keywords selected among the plurality of ~~meta-data~~ keywords by the user after the data to be managed are inputted and the input data as managed data in association with each other.

22. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 19, wherein said step of accepting the user's selection of ~~meta-data~~ a keyword includes accepting a plurality of ~~meta-data~~ keywords, and said step of saving the selected ~~meta-data~~ keywords and the input data includes saving the ~~meta-data~~ keywords selected among the plurality of ~~meta-data~~ keywords by the user after the data to be managed are inputted and the input data as managed data in association with each other.

23. (Currently Amended) A program according to claim 20, wherein said code for accepting the user's selection of ~~meta-data~~ a keyword includes code for accepting a plurality of ~~meta-data~~ keywords, and said code for saving the selected ~~meta-data~~ keyword and the input data includes code for saving the ~~meta-data~~ keywords selected among the plurality of ~~meta-data~~ keywords by the user after the data to be managed are inputted and the input data as managed data in association with each other.